

To: Montgomery, Michael[Montgomery.Michael@epa.gov]
From: Johnson, AudreyL
Sent: Fri 8/14/2015 6:18:41 PM
Subject: FW: USDA Request: EPA Contact with Navajo

Mike-

Received this email from Trina. Mike Ladd (?) from USDA is looking for a central point of contact on the spill beyond the Region 8 contact number provided. Is there a central POC we can refer him to? Has someone other than Harry been identified? I don't want to add to his plate.

Thanks,

Audrey L. Johnson

Life Scientist

US EPA, Region 9

Water Division, Tribal Water Section, WTR 3-4

75 Hawthorne Street

San Francisco, CA 94105

Email: johnson.audreyL@epa.gov

Phone: (415) 972-3431

<http://www.epa.gov/region09/water/tribal/tribal-cwa.html#wtrpollution>

From: Martynowicz, Trina
Sent: Friday, August 14, 2015 10:46 AM
To: Johnson, AudreyL
Subject: FW: USDA Request: EPA Contact with Navajo

Hi! Since you're acting...

Trina Martynowicz

Clean Energy and Climate Change Office

U.S. EPA Region 9

75 Hawthorne St. (AIR-9)

San Francisco, CA 94105

415.972.3474

Martynowicz.Trina@epa.gov

From: Martynowicz, Trina

Sent: Wednesday, August 12, 2015 4:55 PM

To: Moreno, Laura (Separated)

Subject: USDA Request: EPA Contact with Navajo

Hi Laura, I'll leave it up to you if you or someone in your office would like to provide an EPA contact to Mr. Ladd at USDA for this request. I'm sure you guys are crazy busy in dealing with and responding to this accident.

His email: Michael.Ladd@fns.usda.gov

From: Wiener, Steven (ACF) <Steven.Wiener@acf.hhs.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, August 12, 2015 8:51 AM

To: Martynowicz, Trina

Subject: FW: EPA Accident and Navajo

Trina—

Any idea who I can send Mike (USDA Tribal) to on this issue? I see on this website, that they have a contact form for Region 8 and a phone #. Let me know if you know anything else.

<http://www2.epa.gov/goldkingmine>

If you don't know, no worries.

Thanks,

Steven Wiener

Administration for Children and Families

Office of the Regional Administrator (Region 9)

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

415-437-8402

steven.wiener@acf.hhs.gov

From: Ladd, Michael - FNS [<mailto:Michael.Ladd@fns.usda.gov>]

Sent: Wednesday, August 12, 2015 8:03 AM

To: Wiener, Steven (ACF)

Subject: FW: EPA Accident and Navajo

Hey Steven,

Did you see this already? Not a good thing.... Is there an EPA Point of Contact you can direct me to? Thanks!

FARMERS ANGRY WITH EPA OVER A DIFFERENT WATER ISSUE: Hundreds of

farmers in Colorado, New Mexico and Utah are expressing frustration this week over an EPA accident that has contaminated the Animas and San Juan rivers, threatening their fields and livestock, Farm Bureau officials in the affected states tell MA. For once, it's not the Waters of the U.S. rule that the farmers are angry with the EPA about.

EPA employees were working at a long-abandoned gold mine in Colorado when they breached a wall and released 3 million gallons of wastewater that contained lead, arsenic and other heavy metals. The deluge turned the normally blue Animas River a sickly yellow, and the contamination has spread to other streams, including the connected San Juan River. EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy, who has apologized for the accident, is set today to visit Durango, Colo., where the EPA has set up a command center, Pro Energy's Alex Guillén reports. She will also travel to Farmington, N.M., which is downriver.

"They say it's an accident," Jack Harris, who owns a small farm with 60 goats and 20 horses, in New Mexico, told MA. The EPA employees "were up there screwing around in that mine. If they didn't have any more experience than that, they shouldn't have been there." The company that provides Harris' farm water from the river managed to shut off valves before the contamination could spread into his ditches. He believes he can continue to water his animals from his domestic well for about a week. After that, he's not sure what he will do.

NAVAJO NATION READY TO FILE SUIT: While many in the agriculture industry are counting on the federal government to truck in water to help with the disaster, Navajo Nation President Russell Begaye announced over the weekend that he intends to file a lawsuit against the EPA. The Navajo Nation extends into the states of Utah, Arizona and New Mexico, covering more than 27,000 square miles, and depends on the contaminated rivers as a supply of drinking water and irrigation for some farms.

Out of fear that it will be a long time before the river water will be safe, Duane "Chili" Yazzie, president of the Navajo Nation's Shiprock chapter and a farmer himself, reportedly told Native News Online that the chapter's board has made the decision to keep irrigation closed for the remainder of the season. "You can't describe the extent of hurt that we've been thrown into," he said.